

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Final Office Action dated April 3, 2008, having a shortened statutory period for response extended-one month set to expire on August 3, 2008. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed herein.

Claims 1-9 remain pending in the application after entry of this response. Claims 6-9 have been added.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2, and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sellstrom, et al.* in view of *Yeakey*. The Examiner states that the only difference between *Sellstrom* and the claimed diamine is that *Sellstrom* contains a methyl group on the carbon atom attached to the amine rather than an ethyl group. Examiner also states that *Yeakey* discloses a polyamine having a Z group at the same location which may be an ethyl group. The Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to substitute the methyl group of *Sellstrom* with the ethyl group of *Yeakey*.

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. As the Examiner discussed, *Sellstrom* discloses using diamine having a methyl group on the carbon atom attached to one of the two amines. The other amine group is attached to a repeatable unit of $[\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)]_x$. The amine group of *Yeakey* disclosed is a repeating unit depending on the value of "m," where "m" is an integer between 2-8. (See *Yeakey* Col. 1, Ins. 69-70). There is no teaching or suggestion nor has the Examiner demonstrated that a person of ordinary skill would replace the methyl on the carbon attached to the non-repeating amine group of *Sellstrom* with an ethyl group from a repeating amine group of *Yeakey*. In addition, if substituted, the substitution would also require the branched methyl group in the repeating unit of *Sellstrom* to be substituted with a branched ethyl. As a result, the "new" polyamine of *Sellstrom* would not anticipate or render obvious the "R1" group of the claimed polyamine. Furthermore, both references are silent with respect to cure time. The Examiner has not shown replacing *that* particular methyl

group with an ethyl group would result in longer cure time. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Waddill, et al.*

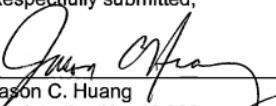
Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. *Waddill* discloses a polyamine having a repeating amine unit attached to hydrocarbon "Z" group. *Waddill* does not teach that the Z group may be an amine group. Thus, even if "n" is 1, as the Examiner suggests, *Waddill* would at best teach having an ethyl group on the carbon attached only one of the amine groups, not both, as claimed. Also, *Waddill* is silent with respect to cure time. The Examiner has not shown replacing *that* particular methyl group with an ethyl group would result in longer cure time. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the invention as claimed.

Having addressed all issues set out in the Final Office Action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



Jason C. Huang
Registration No. 46,222
PATTERSON & SHERIDAN
3040 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1500
Houston, TX 77056
Tel: (713) 623-4844
Attorney for Applicant(s)